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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU RECEIVES MOCK TRIAL AWARDS

CHARLESTON -- Eastern Illinois University garnered a second place team award and three individual awards during a national mock trial competition held recently in Milwaukee, Wis.

Eastern entered two mock trial teams in the competition, which included 36 teams from 20 schools, who were judged by attorneys on team performance as well as individual achievement.

In addition to Eastern's team award, individual awards were presented to junior Eric Wright of Willowbrook, who received "Best Attorney," and to seniors Shawn Wagner of Freeburg and Justin Perry of Xenia, who were named "Best Witnesses."

"The mock trial competition provides students with a great opportunity to learn how a trial is conducted," according to Peter Leigh of Charleston, chair of pre-legal studies and Mock Trial Team coach at Eastern.

Since it began competing 10 years ago, Eastern's team has received numerous trophies and awards, including a first place "Best Team" award in 1985, and three other top 10 team awards.